

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 WELLIN 00516 270420Z

10

ACTION DLOS-05

INFO OCT-01 EA-06 ISO-00 CG-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01

INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 FEA-01 AID-05 CEQ-01 COA-01 COME-00 EB-07

EPA-01 IO-10 NSF-01 OES-03 ACDA-05 ERDA-05 AGR-05

DOT-00 FMC-01 INT-05 JUSE-00 OMB-01 CIEP-01 CEA-01

OIC-02 AF-06 ARA-06 EUR-12 NEA-09 /144 W

----- 070230

R 270326Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9260

C O N F I D E N T I A L WELLINGTON 0516

NOFORN

EO 11652: XGDS-2

TAGS: PLOS, NZ

SUBJECT: LOS: NEW ZEALAND POSITION

REFS: A) STATE 027826 B) WELLINGTON 383

1. SUMMARY- GNZ POSITION ON LOS REMAINS ESSENTIALLY UNCHANGED FROM WHAT IT WAS AT THE CARACAS CONFERENCE. GNZ EXPECTS THAT WHATEVER KIND OF AGREEMENT IS FINALLY ADOPTED IT WILL INCLUDE A 200 MILE EXCLUSIVE ECONOMIC ZONE. ECONOMIC ZONE AND ISLAND QUESTION APPEAR TO BE THE MAJOR AREAS OF CONCERN FOR GNZ. FREEDOM OF NAVIGATION SEEN AS THE MOST TROUBLESOME ISSUE YET TO BE RESOLVED. END SUMMARY.

2. EMBASSY ASSESSMENT OF GNZ LOS POSITION IS BASED ON CONVERSATIONS WITH OFFICIAL INVOLVED AND INCLUDES INFORMATION FROM HIGHLY SENSITIVE SOURCE. WHILE GNZ EXPECTS HARD BARGAINING ON ALL ISSUES, IT IS OBVIOUS THAT IT
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 WELLIN 00516 270420Z

CONSIDERS FREEDOM OF NAVIGATION TO BE THE SINGLE MOST

DIFFICULT PROBLEM TO RESOLVE. GNZ FEELS FREE PASSAGE FOR MERCHANT SHIPS CAN BE ASSURED. HOWEVER, IT CONSIDERS THAT ANY REQUIREMENT FOR PRIOR NOTIFICATION OF PASSAGE OF WARSHIPS WOULD BE UNACCEPTABLE TO BOTH THE UNITED STATES AND USSR. GNZ HAS NO NEW THOUGHTS TO OFFER AS TO HOW THIS ISSUE CAN BE RESOLVED.

3. GNZ OFFICIALS ARE ALMOST CERTAIN THAT A 200 MILE EXCLUSIVE ECONOMIC ZONE WILL BE INCLUDED IN WHATEVER AGREEMENT EMERGES FROM LOS TALKS. IF ISLANDS ARE GIVEN AN ECONOMIC ZONE NEW ZEALAND WILL BE WELL SATISFIED. IT IS NOT SURPRISING, THEREFORE, THAT THE GNZ IS PARTICULARLY INTERESTED IN INSURING THAT ISLANDS ARE GIVEN 200 MILE ECONOMIC ZONES. SHOULD THAT COME TO PASS, THE CHAIN OF ISLANDS SOUTH AND EAST OF NEW ZEALAND WOULD INSURE THAT THIS COUNTRY RECEIVE MORE OR LESS THE SAME BENEFITS AS IT WOULD FROM AN "OUTER EDGE OF THE MARGIN" DEFINITION OF THE CONTINENTAL SHELF. A MAJOR PROBLEM FOR NEW ZEALAND WITH REGARD TO ISLANDS IS THE FACT THAT MANY OF THE ISLANDS NEW ZEALAND WOULD RELY UPON IN THIS EFFORT ARE UNINHABITED AND, IN SOME CASE, UNINHABITABLE. THE BOUNTYS AND THE ANTIPODES ARE TWO EXAMPLES OF THIS POINT AND THEIR FAILURE TO RECEIVE 200 MILE ECONOMIC ZONES WOULD BE A CONSIDERABLE BLOW TO NEW ZEALAND'S HOPES.

4. COMMENT-IN GENERAL GNZ SEES ITS MAJOR INTERESTS TIED TO THE ECONOMIC ZONE ISSUE AND THE CONCOMITANT QUESTION OF DEFINITION OF RIGHTS OF ISLANDS IN THIS REGARD. WITH THE 200 MILE ECONOMIC ZONE ALMOST A FOREGONE CONCLUSION, INSURING ITS APPLICATION TO ISLANDS WILL BE THE GNZ'S FIRST ORDER OF BUSINESS AT THE UPCOMING CONFERENCE. AT THE SAME TIME, GNZ FEELS THAT FREEDOM OF NAVIGATION WILL BE THE MOST DIFFICULT ISSUE TO RESOLVE. FAILURE TO FIND AN ACCEPTABLE SOLUTION COULD WELL LEAD TO THE FAILURE OF THE LOS NEGOTIATIONS.
SELDEN

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: LAW OF THE SEA, FREEDOM OF NAVIGATION, TERRITORIAL WATERS, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 27 FEB 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: MartinML
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975WELLIN00516
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: X2
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750068-1112
From: WELLINGTON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t1975025/aaaaaebo.tel
Line Count: 97
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION DLOS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 STATE 027826, 75 WELLINGTON 383
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: MartinML
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 22 JUL 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <22 JUL 2003 by ElyME>; APPROVED <19 NOV 2003 by MartinML>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: LOS: NEW ZEALAND POSITION
TAGS: PLOS, NZ
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006